

NURSING ECHOES.

Recent events in the Nursing World have proved how absolutely necessary it is that trained nurses should have recognised legal status, and have secured to them not only efficient training and professional instruction, but that through State Registration they should enjoy distinction from unqualified women. Speaking with a New Zealand Sister recently, she said:—"I left the Dominion an enfranchised citizen and a registered professional woman; here I feel like the ghost of my former self—there is nothing to me." How true. We advise all trained nurses as soon as they gain their hospital certificates to join the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses in England, and corresponding societies for levelling up their status in Scotland and Ireland. Apply to the Hon. Secretary, S.S.T.N., 431, Oxford Street, London, W., for information, and a form of application. The cost of membership is one shilling annually, and the great satisfaction that you are doing your individual bit for the uplifting of the profession as a whole.

Trained nurses should carefully see to it in these days that they take part in controlling their own financial affairs. For instance, the National Insurance Act for the first time made it possible for them to do so, in connection with State insurance. There is something so futile in handing over all responsibility for control and expenditure of one's money to either a person or committee which excludes one practically from any power in connection with it.

For this reason matrons and nurses have founded the Trained Women Nurses' Friendly Society, which is entirely managed by a committee of nurses, and which has been so carefully conserved that a handsome sum has already been saved on the sick benefit allowance. Thoughtful nurses should support this self-governing professional Society by applying for information to the Secretary, T.W.N.F.S., at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., when, we feel sure, they will wish to join it, and encourage their friends to do likewise.

The Lords' amendments to the London County Council (General Powers) Bill and the London County Council (Tramways and Improvements) Bill were considered and agreed to on the 21st inst., so Nursing Homes are safe from association with disorderly houses for the

time being. The Society of Superintendents of Nursing Homes should keep a vigilant look-out for legislation of such a nature.

The City Hospital, Little Bromwich, near Birmingham, will shortly receive all the cases of infectious disease in the city transferred to hospital, as the Lodge Road City Hospital is shortly to close. This will necessitate the opening of three wards for diphtheria at Little Bromwich, and consequently increase the value of the hospital as a training school in fever nursing. It is already recognized by the Fever Nurses' Association, and from eight to ten nurses go up for the examination of the Association every six months.

Probationers are received at the age of nineteen, and pass on to general hospitals at the conclusion of their special training. The Sisters are all fully trained, but, owing to the war, the authorities, like those of many other hospitals, find it most difficult to fill the vacancies. Applications from Sisters who are older than those ordinarily accepted would be considered. The conditions are comfortable, the wards well staffed, and the time off good.

The hospital contains 480 beds, and is in the country, but only ten minutes' walk from the car terminus, and by car the progressive and interesting city of Birmingham can be reached in half an hour.

Miss Kent writes from Toronto that she and Miss Hulme expect to be home next month. They leave every place they visit with regret, as they have been received with so much kindness and hospitality. Miss Snively, who has done all in her power to make their visit delightful, is, says Miss Kent, "held in the greatest affection by the nursing profession in Canada, for whom she has done such fine pioneer organizing work." New York now calls our delegates, as they are anxious to study some of its social problems and see how they are solved. In spite of war and Zepps, the National Council of Nurses must prepare a warm welcome for Miss Hulme and Miss Kent once they are safely home, and arrange a meeting to hear all they have to tell us of their most entrancing tour.

The Rev. Joseph Bernard Foster, vicar since 1871 of Manuden, Stansted, Essex, who died on September 23rd, leaving £21,398, bequeathed the residue of the property, which will probably exceed £15,000, to his nurse and attendant, Miss Ellen Penny, desiring she should not dispose of Manuden House and the effects therein. He left generous legacies to his domestics.

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